



Co-Chairs Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) and Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC)
invite you to join:

Human Rights in Turkey

**A discussion on human rights, civil liberties, and foreign policy in Turkey
ahead of the May 14 general elections.**

Wednesday, April 26

3:00 – 4:15 PM ET

SD-G11 (Dirksen Senate Office Building)

Turkey will hold presidential and parliamentary elections on May 14, 2023, where Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, leader of the main opposition Republican People's Party, will run against incumbent President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan as the joint candidate of the Nation Alliance formed by six opposition parties. The elections will take place against the backdrop of the disastrous February 6 earthquakes in southern Turkey that continues to affect Turkey's politics, society, and economy.

Amidst changing social and political dynamics in Turkey, the Senate Human Rights Caucus will host a discussion on the state of human rights in Turkey, and how the outcomes of the May 14 presidential and parliamentary elections may impact the future of democracy in the country.

Panelists:

Mr. Nate Schenkkan, Senior Director of Research, Freedom House

Ms. Merve Tahiroglu, Turkey Program Director, Project on Middle East Democracy

Mr. James Zanotti, Specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs, Congressional Research Service

Moderated by **Dr. Gönül Tol**, Director, Turkey Program & Senior Fellow, Black Sea Program
Middle East Institute

Featuring remarks by **Senator Coons** and **Senator Tillis**

To RSVP for the event, please contact Margaret Flynn Sapia and Alexis Terai at
Margaret_FlynnSapia@coons.senate.gov and Alexis_Terai@coons.senate.gov.